**Start Smart Reading**

**First Grade Sequencing Rationale**

The Start Smart Reading Unit of instruction is designed for the first three weeks of first grade. Smart Start will provide students with lessons in phonemic awareness, phonics, vocabulary, reading comprehension, and writing. These areas have been identified by the U. S. Department of Education as skills necessary to propel students to become effective readers and ultimately productive citizens. The unit of instruction will lay the foundation for literacy success in years to come. Start Smart offers teachers the opportunity to assess students to determine their readiness to begin mastering first grade learning outcomes as outlined by the Ohio Common Core State Standards.

The sequencing pattern used in this curriculum design is Learning-related: Empirical prerequisite as it is based on what research says is the best combination of strategies for teaching young children to read and the Common Core State Standards.